

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2005 Assembly Bill 270

Assembly Amendments 1 (and Amendment 1 to Amendment 1) and 2

Memo published: June 21, 2005 Contact: Richard Sweet, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2982)

Assembly Bill 270 requires the principal prenatal health care provider of a woman who is known to be pregnant to offer her information, before her 35th week of pregnancy, on options to donate blood extracted from the umbilical cord of her newborn child. The options to donate would be to an accepting and accredited cord blood bank, blood bank, blood center, or plasma center. The information must be provided if the donation may be made without monetary expense for the collection or storage to the woman, to any insurer providing health care coverage for the woman, or to the hospital in which the delivery occurs. However, the requirement to provide information does not apply to a physician, nurse-midwife, nurse, or other hospital employee or contractor who, or a hospital that, refuses in writing by reason of religion or personal conviction to participate in this activity.

Assembly Amendment 1 provides that no person may be held civilly liable for failure to comply with the requirements of the bill. Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Amendment 1 provides that no person may be held civilly liable for complying with the requirements of the bill.

Assembly Amendment 2: (1) deletes the reference in the bill to the "insurer" and substitutes a reference to "3rd-party payor"; (2) provides that the information must be offered "notwithstanding s. 146.33", Stats., which allows minors who are 17 years of age to donate blood; and (3) deletes the exception to the requirement to provide the information if the person refuses in writing by reason of religion or personal conviction.

Legislative History

On June 9, 2005, the Assembly Committee on Health recommended: (1) adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 to Assembly Amendment 1 by a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0; (2) adoption of Assembly Amendment 1 by a vote of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0; (3) adoption of Assembly Amendment 2 by a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 1; and (4) passage of the bill as amended by a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 1.

RNS:rv:tlu